



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

TRG

Docket No: 8100-98

14 April 2000

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 14 April 2000. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 27 September 1993 at age 22. In January 1997 you were diagnosed with a personality disorder after you expressed serious suicidal ideation and threatened to use a service weapon. The psychologist believed that you were at risk to harm yourself or others and recommended expeditious administrative separation. In addition, you were diagnosed as being alcohol dependent.

Based on the foregoing diagnoses you were processed for an administrative discharge. In connection with this processing, you elected to waive your procedural rights. On 20 February 1997 the discharge authority directed an honorable discharge upon completion of an inpatient (Level III) alcohol rehabilitation program. On 15 March 1997 you were dropped from the rehabilitation program at your own request. Accordingly, you were not considered to be amenable for rehabilitation. You were honorably discharged on 24 March 1997. At that time you were not recommended for reenlistment and were assigned an RE-4 reenlistment code.

In your application you state that you were under stress due to

marital and family problems and your statements were misinterpreted. You apologize for any inconvenience and desire a change in the reenlistment code so that you can reenlist.

Regulations allow for the assignment of an RE-4 reenlistment code when an individual is discharged due to a diagnosed personality disorder. That code is normally assigned when an individual is determined to be at risk to harm themselves or others. Such a code is required when an individual is separated as an alcohol rehabilitation failure.

The Board noted that there is no evidence in the record, and you have submitted none, to refute the diagnosis of personality disorder made by the psychologist. In addition, the Board noted that individuals who request termination of an alcohol rehabilitation program are considered to be alcohol rehabilitation failures. The Board concluded that either the severity of the personality disorder or your alcohol rehabilitation failure would be sufficient to support the assignment of an RE-4 reenlistment code.

Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director